

S/N To be assigned

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MÄKIPÄÄ et al. Serial No.: To be assigned  
Filed: 10/18/01 Docket No.: 602.355USW1  
Title: METHOD, SYSTEM AND DEVICE FOR IDENTIFYING A DEFECTIVE UNIT


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By:

  
Name: Kari Arnold

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment into the above-referenced application.

ABSTRACT

Please insert the attached abstract into the application as the last page thereof.

CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-8 as follows. A clean copy of the amended and new claims is included below. A marked up copy of the entire claim set is included in Appendix A.

1. (Amended) Method for identifying a defective plug-in unit in a system comprising  
a first bus (PCI);

an interface circuit (1) provided with a first register (A) and a second register (B);  
 at least two plug-in units (2) connected via interface circuits (1) to the first bus (PCI);  
 a second bus (3) connected to at least one plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>); and  
 an operation and maintenance facility (4) connected to the second bus (3); and  
 in which method the first plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>) addresses the second plug-in unit (2<sup>2</sup>) with a bus address, wherein  
 the bus address is transferred into the first register (A); and  
 the bus address is transferred in conjunction with a reboot from the first register (A) into the second register (B).

2. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein the bus address is read from the second register (B) by means of the operation and maintenance facility (4).

3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein the first bus (PCI) is disposed in a CompactPCI bus.

4. (Amended) System for identifying a defective plug-in unit, said system comprising:

a first bus (PCI);  
 an interface circuit (1) provided with a first register (A) and a second register (B);  
 at least two plug-in units (2) connected via interface circuits (1) to the first bus (PCI), a first plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>) comprising means for addressing a second plug-in unit (2<sup>2</sup>) with a bus address;  
 a second bus (3) connected to at least one plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>); and

an operation and maintenance facility (4) connected to the second bus (3),

wherein the system comprises:

means for transferring the bus address into the first register (A);

means for transferring the bus address in conjunction with a reboot from the first register (A) into the second register (B); and

means for reading the bus address from the second register (B) by using the operation and maintenance facility (4).

5. (Amended) System as defined in claim 4, wherein the first bus (PCI) is a CompactPCI bus.

6. (Amended) Interface circuit (1), comprising:

means for connected a first bus (PCI) to a plug-in unit (2);

a first register (A); and

a subscriber (B), wherein the interface circuit comprises:

means for transferring the bus address into the first register (A); and

means for transferring the bus address in conjunction with a reboot from the first register (A) into the second register (B).

7. (Amended) Interface circuit as defined in claim 6, wherein the interface circuit (1) comprises means for sending the bus address from the second register (B) to the operation and maintenance facility (4).

8. (Amended) System as defined in claim 6, wherein the first bus (PCI) is a CompactPCI bus.

**REMARKS**

The above preliminary amendment is made to insert an abstract page into the application and to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3 and 8 and put the claims in U.S. format

Applicant respectfully requests that this preliminary amendment be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's attorney of record, Michael B. Lasky at 952-912-0527.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 18 October 2001

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**Appendix A**  
**Marked Up Version of Entire Claim Set**

1. (Amended) Method for identifying a defective plug-in unit in a system comprising
- a first bus (PCI);
  - an interface circuit (1) provided with a first register (A) and a second register (B);
  - at least two plug-in units (2) connected via interface circuits (1) to the first bus (PCI);
  - a second bus (3) connected to at least one plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>); and
  - an operation and maintenance facility (4) connected to the second bus (3); and
- in which method the first plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>) addresses the second plug-in unit (2<sup>2</sup>) with a bus address, [ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that: ] wherein the bus address is transferred into the first register (A); and the bus address is transferred in conjunction with a reboot from the first register (A) into the second register (B).
2. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, [ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that ] wherein the bus address is read from the second register (B) by means of the operation and maintenance facility (4).
3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1 [ or 2 ], [ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that ] wherein the first bus (PCI) is disposed in a CompactPCI bus.
4. (Amended) System for identifying a defective plug-in unit, said system comprising:
- a first bus (PCI);

an interface circuit (1) provided with a first register (A) and a second register (B);  
 at least two plug-in units (2) connected via interface circuits (1) to the first bus  
 (PCI), a first plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>) comprising means for addressing a second plug-in  
 unit (2<sup>2</sup>) with a bus address;

a second bus (3) connected to at least one plug-in unit (2<sup>1</sup>); and

an operation and maintenance facility (4) connected to the second bus (3),

[ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the system comprises:

means for transferring the bus address into the first register (A);

means for transferring the bus address in conjunction with a reboot from the first  
 register (A) into the second register (B); and

means for reading the bus address from the second register (B) by using the  
 operation and maintenance facility (4).

5. (Amended) System as defined in claim 4, [ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in  
 that ] wherein the first bus (PCI) is a CompactPCI bus.

6. (Amended) Interface circuit (1), comprising:

means for connected a first bus (PCI) to a plug-in unit (2);

a first register (A); and

a subscriber (B), [ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that ] wherein the interface circuit  
 comprises:

means for transferring the bus address into the first register (A); and

means for transferring the bus address in conjunction with a reboot from the first  
 register (A) into the second register (B).

7. (Amended) Interface circuit as defined in claim 6, [ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that ] wherein the interface circuit (1) comprises means for sending the bus address from the second register (B) to the operation and maintenance facility (4).

8. (Amended) System as defined in claim 6 [ or 7 ], [ c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that ] wherein the first bus (PCI) is a CompactPCI bus.